

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

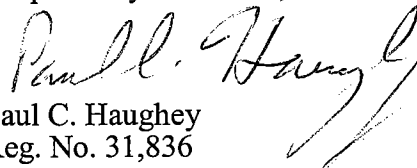
Claims 8 and 9 are pending in this application. Claim 9 has been allowed. Claim 8 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-7 and 10-12 have been rejected. Claims 1-7 and 10-12 have been canceled.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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